

15 November 1999

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Donna Shalala, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW.  
Washington, DC. 20201

RE: In support of radiation labeling on food

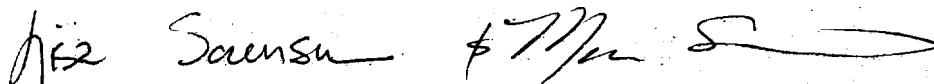
Dear Secretary Shalala:

I am writing to let you know I am very concerned about the possible weakening of labeling requirements for irradiated food. I strongly believe that it is the right of the consumer to clearly know if food has been treated with radiation. The Food and Drug Administration must protect and strengthen the consumer's right to choose food according to his/her own beliefs about this procedure.

Food irradiation leads to chemical changes that have both cosmetic and nutritional impacts. There may also be other impacts that are not fully known at this time. Labels for irradiated food must be clear, honest, and prominent. Any irradiated food that is not packaged needs to be accompanied by a poster in plain view of where the product is offered for sale.

Please be vigorous in defending the consumer's right to know in this important decision making process.

Sincerely,



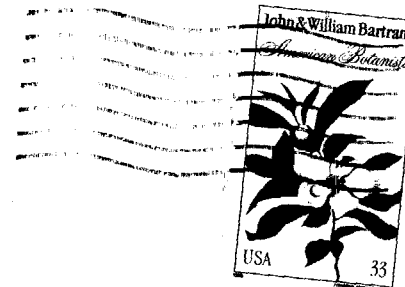
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